S/N 10/004,623 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

BURFEIND ET AL.

Examiner:

Taylor, Victor J.

MAR 1 5 2006

Serial No.:

10/004,623

Group Art Unit:

2863

Filed:

December 3, 2001

Docket No.:

14305.6US OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Title:

GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONALIZED MULTIMEDIA

NATURAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV322887254US Date of Deposit: December 23, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Name: Teresa Anderson

DECLARATION OF NICHOLAS P. JOHNS

I, Nicholas P. Johns, declare as follows:

- 1. I am a registered patent attorney and an associate at the law firm of Merchant & Gould P.C., in Minneapolis, Minnesota. My registration number is 48,995.
- 2. I presently prosecute the above-captioned application for Digital Cyclone, Inc. ("Digital Cyclone").
- 3. The above-captioned application was filed by the Applicant on December 3. 2001, via legal counsel at Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth ("Schwegman"). This application is assigned to Digital Cyclone, Inc. ("Digital Cyclone").
- 4. On or about February 28, 2003, Digital Cyclone transferred all of its files from Schwegman to Merchant & Gould, where this case is now being prosecuted.
- 5. On March 10, 2003, papers were filed with the U.S.P.T.O. granting Merchant & Gould power of attorney in this matter, and directing future correspondence to Merchant & Gould.

- 6. On March 24, 2003, a first Office Action was mailed. According to the cover sheet associated with the Office Action, the Office Action was mailed to Schwegman.
- 7. At some point following receipt of the Office Action by Schwegman, the Office Action was received by Merchant & Gould, although I am not certain of when this occurred.
- 8. At Merchant & Gould, correspondence from the U.S.P.T.O. is routed through a docketing department and is entered into a computerized docketing system to ensure timely response.
- 9. Because the Office Action was forwarded to Merchant & Gould through an intermediary, it was not identified as correspondence from the U.S.P.T.O., and was never entered into the docketing system. For this reason, Applicant unintentionally failed to respond to the Office Action within the permissible six-month period.
- 10. At the time the Notice of Abandonment was received, I examined the file jacket, and the Office Action was not found therein. Docket records show that the Office Action was never received.
- 11. On September 25, 2003, attorneys from Merchant & Gould and representatives from Digital Cyclone attended a meeting. Mr. Gregson and I were present at this meeting.
- 12. During the meeting of September 25, 2003, strategy regarding Digital Cyclone's patent portfolio was discussed. The above-captioned application figured prominently in that discussion.
- 13. At no point during the meeting did any person state or suggest in any way that the above-captioned application was abandoned or even at risk of abandonment.
- 14. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that

statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

Dated: 23 Dec. 72003

Signed:

Name: Nicholas P Johns

Reg. No.: 48,995 NPJohns/Ifalla S/N 10/004,623

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

BURFEIND ET AL.

Examiner:

Taylor, Victor JRECEIVED

Serial No.:

10/004,623

Group Art Unit:

2863

MAR 1 5 2006

Filed: Title:

December 3, 2001

Docket No.:

14305.6USC

GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONALIZED MU NATURAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV322887254US Date of Deposit: December <u>33</u>, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Name: Teresa Anderson

DECLARATION OF RICHARD J. GREGSON

- I, Richard J. Gregson, declare as follows:
- I am a registered patent attorney and was an associate at the law firm of Merchant 1. & Gould P.C., in Minneapolis, Minnesota, until September 30, 2003. My registration number is 41,804.
- Until my departure from Merchant & Gould, I prosecuted the above-captioned 2. application for Digial Cyclone, Inc. ("Digital Cyclone").
- On July 9, 2003, I conducted a telephone interview of the Examiner assigned to 3. the above-captioned application, Victor J. Taylor.
- 4. During my interview of Mr. Taylor, the topic of how Digital Cyclone intended to proceed arose. I informed Mr. Taylor that I would have to discuss this matter with the client. Further, I stated that Digital Cyclone held several related patent applications, and that the response in the above-captioned application needed to be determined in light of issues in the other applications.

- 5. At no point during my telephone interview did I state or suggest that Digital Cyclone intended to abandon the application or fail to respond to the Office Action in question in this matter.
- 6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

18 Dec 2003

Signed

Richard J. Gregson

S/N 10/004,623 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

BURFEIND ET AL.

Examiner:

Taylor, Victor J.

RECEIVED

Serial No.:

10/004,623

Group Art Unit:

2863

MAR 1 5 2006

Filed:

December 3, 2001

Docket No.:

14305.6USC1

CFFICE OF PETITIONS

Title:

GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONALIZED MULTIMEDIA

NATURAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV322887254US

Date of Deposit: December 2, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Name: Teresa Anderson

DECLARATION OF JODI GANDEL-KLEIN IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I, Jodi Gandel-Klein, declare and state:

- 1. I am the Docketing Supervisor for Merchant & Gould P.C., the law firm prosecuting the above-referenced patent application. I have been Docketing Supervisor since November 17, 1997.
- 2. I am responsible for overseeing all incoming Patent and Trademark Office communications and oversee those responsible for seeing that these communications are properly docketed and entered into our computerized docketing system.
- 3. Incoming mail received by the firm is sorted into correspondence that may require docketing and correspondence that does not require docketing. The correspondence that may

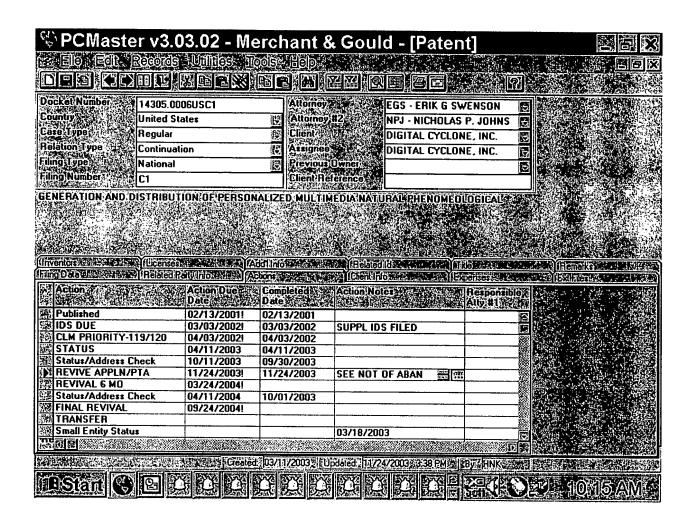
require docketing is further distinguished between correspondence from the Patent and Trademark Office and other correspondence. After the incoming mail has been date stamped to show date of receipt, a member of the firm's docketing department retrieves the mail that may require docketing and brings it to the docketing department. The appropriate personnel then docket the correspondence.

- 4. If such an Office Action had been received, the communication would have been docketed by entering into the computerized docket system the date the Office Action was mailed. The computerized docket system would then calculate the due dates for response to the Office Action up to the six month statutory deadline. The first page of the Office Action would then be initialed by the person docketing the Office Action to indicate that it had been docketed and forwarded to the attorney responsible for the patent application for further action, e.g., reporting to the client, etc.
- 5. I have reviewed the records in the firm's docket system and find no entry for the Office Action for this application, nor any other evidence that would suggest that the Office Action actually was received by the firm.
- 6. In view of the above, I believe that the Office Action for this application was never delivered to the docketing department for docketing.
- 7. The docket record for U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/004,623 is enclosed herewith as Exhibit A.
- 8. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful, false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18, of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or document or any registration resulting therefrom.

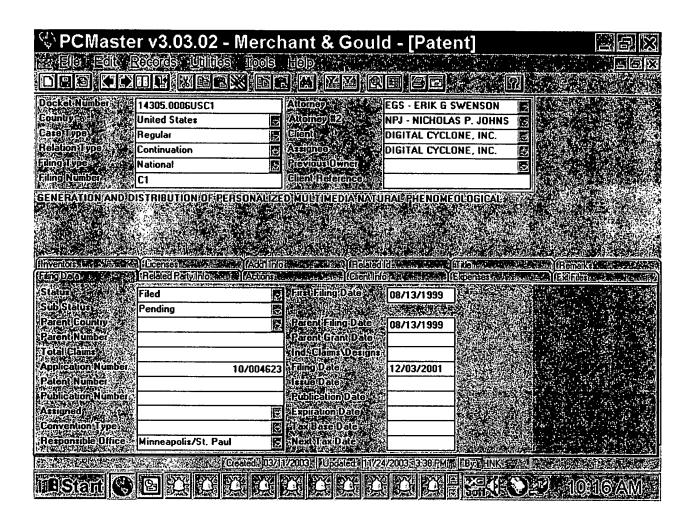
Dated: Dec 23, 2003

By: Dated: And Holin

Joel Gandel-Klein







S/N 10/004,623

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

BURFEIND ET AL.

Examiner:

Taylor, Victor J.

Serial No.:

10/004,623

Group Art Unit:

2863

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December 3, 2001

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Name: Teresa Anderson

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 24, 2003. Applicants are filing a Petition to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment concurrently with this response. It is believed that an extension of time and fee are not necessary in light of the above petition. If the Examiner determines that a fee is necessary, please charge Deposit Account No. 13-2725

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 18-50. Applicants previously cancelled claims 1-17, 54 and 67-69. With respect to the Examiner's rejection of claims 51-53 and 55-66, Applicants herewith cancel claims 51-53 and 55-66.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

Signed:

Name: Nicholas P. Johns

Reg. No.: 48,995 NPJohns:PLSdb

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Post Office To Addressee

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S/N 10/155,418

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

BURFEIND ET AL.

Examiner:

V. TAYLOR

Serial No.:

10/004,623

Group Art Unit:

2863

Filed:

DECEMBER 3, 2001

Docket No.:

14305.6USC1

Title:

GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONALIZED

MULTIMEDIA NATURAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 27, 2005.

Name: Sage M. Kru

COMMUNICATION REQUESTING WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

RECEIVED

Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 MAR 1 5 2006

CFFICE OF PETITIONS

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this Communication is to direct your attention to the fact that on December 23, 2003, a Petition Under 37 C.F.R. 1.181 for Withdrawal of Holding of Abandonment was made to your attention. I will briefly review the facts for you. On March 24, 2003, the U.S.P.T.O. mailed a first Office Action to the incorrect address. On October 6, 2003, we received a Notice of Abandonment. On December 23, 2003, a Petition for Withdrawal of Holding of Abandonment was made. A copy of this Petition is included herein in its entirety at Exhibit 1. A copy of the Express Mail label is also included in Exhibit 1 showing that the Petition was mailed on December 23, 2003. We received our return post card from the U.S.P.T.O. on January 6, 2004. A copy of the front and back side of this post card is also included for your reference at Exhibit 2. It is interesting to note that the U.S.P.T.O date stamped this post card "DEC 22 2003". Obviously, this is an incorrect date, since we filed the Petition on December 23, 2003.

On February 17, 2004, PAIR indicated that the U.S.P.T.O. lost the file for the above referenced case. On March 3, 2004, PAIR indicated that the U.S.P.T.O. had found the file. It is now January, 2005, and we have not received any communication on the Petition for Withdrawal of Holding of Abandonment from the U.S.P.T.O. In addition, the undersigned has made numerous attempts to contact the U.S.P.T.O. regarding this matter, but has been unsuccessful at getting any response.

This case is plagued with errors by the U.S.P.T.O. First, the U.S.P.T.O. mailed the Office Action to the wrong attorneys at the wrong address. Then, the U.S.P.T.O. date stamped our return post card with a date before we filed the Petition for Withdrawal. Then, the U.S.P.T.O. received our Petition, but never responded to it. In addition, the U.S.P.T.O. lost the above referenced case. Now, the Applicants respectfully plead with the U.S.P.T.O. to withdraw the Notice of Abandonment and allow the prosecution of this patent to continue. Applicants have lost valuable time in getting this patent to issue.

Should any further communication be required to resolve this matter, the Commissioner is urged to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number below to expeditiously bring this matter to a close.

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dated: January 27, 2005

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903 612.332.5300

Signed: Mame: Erik G. Swenson

Reg. No.: 45,147

EGS/smk

Receipt is hereby acknowledged for the following in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:
In re Application of: BURFEIND ET AL. For: GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONALIZED MULTIMEDIA NATURAL

PHENOMENOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Docket No.: 14305.6USC1 Filed: DECEMBER 3, 2001

Serial No.: 10/004,623

Due Date:

Date Mailed: January 27, 2005

Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

Communication Requesting Withdrawal of Notice of Abandonment, Exhibits 1 and 2

Return postcard

Patent

ESwenson/smk

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MAR 1 5 2006

CFFICE OF PETITIONS RECEIVED

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CFFICE OF PETITIONS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged for the following in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

In re Application of: BURFEIND ET AL.

For: GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONALIZED MULTIMEDIA NATURAL
PHENOMENOLOGICAL INFORMATION
Docket No.: 1430.6USC1

Serial No.: 10/004,623

Filed: DECEMBER 3, 2001

Due Date:

Date Mailed: January 27, 2005

Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing

Communication Requesting Withdrawal of Notice of Abandonment, Exhibits 1 and 2

Ø Return postcard

Patent

ESwenson/smk